What is claimed is:

1. A method for administering terminals in communication networks, comprising:

5 registering at least one terminal with a central registration entity;

communicating at least one application with the at least one terminal;

performing an inquiry at the central

10 registration entity; and

performing at least one action on the basis of the result of the inquiry.

- 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the 15 registering of the terminal with the central registration entity is not carried out by the terminal to be registered.
- The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
 registration information is updated.
 - 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

 $$\operatorname{performing}$ the inquiry for the user of the $$\operatorname{25}$$ terminals by the application; and

supplying a list of terminals allocated to the user back to the application.

- 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein an 30 interrogation is permitted if the application has authority for the interrogation.
 - 6. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein in the registration information, preferences relating to the terminals are specified as:

an order of priority in which individual terminals are to be addressed,

data formats to transmit voice and/or data to

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the corresponding terminal, and transmission standards for the transmission.

- 7. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the application decides from the registration information supplied back which terminal establishes contact.
- The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the application establishes contact with a number of terminals.
 - 9. A device for administering terminals in communication networks, comprising:

at least one terminal registered with a central registration entity; and

 $\hbox{ at least one application to communicate with } \\$ the at least one terminal,

 $\hbox{the application performs an inquiry at the central registration entity, and} \\$

20 the application performs at least one action on the basis of the result of the inquiry.

- 10. The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the registering of the terminal with the central 25 registration entity is not carried out by the terminal to be registered.
 - 11. The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein registration information is updated.
 - 12. The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the application perfoms the inquiry for the user of the terminals, and supplying a list of terminals is allocated to the user is supplied back to the
- 35 application.

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- 13. The device as claimed in claim 12, wherein an interrogation is permitted if the application has authority for the interrogation.
- 5 14. The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein in the registration information, preferences relating to the terminals are specified as:

an order of priority in which individual terminals are to be addressed,

- data formats to transmit voice and/or data to the corresponding terminal, and transmission standards for the transmission.
- 15. The device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the application decides from the registration information supplied back which terminal establishes contact.
 - 16. The device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the application establishes contact with a number of

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20 terminals.